

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

EMPLOYEES NEWS BULLETIN

JULY 6 1948

Volume 5

Number 6.

Department of Agriculture
WELFARE ASSOCIATION

HOBBY SHOWThe Agriculture Employees Hobby Show, held in the Patio Friday Evening, June 18, was pronounced by the thousand or so people who saw it to be a great success. A summary of the comments and suggestions turned into the suggestion box at the show by employees and their friends indicates that the show should be held again sometime in the near future and that it should be planned, if possible, so that it can be held for several days instead of just one evening. A lot of people were surprised that we could discover over 100 people with such interesting hobbies and get them on display with a seemingly small amount of publicity and effort. However, the opinion of William S. Harris, Chairman of the Hobby Show, is that we only scraped the surface and, with a little more time and effort, we could discover ten times as many hobbyists in the Department as were persuaded to enter their hobbies in this show.

There were also several comments that there wasn't enough space available for all the exhibits and the spectators too in the patio, and that several of the exhibits deserved to have better lighting than was available for them. These suggestions will be given careful consideration when the planning for our next Hobby Show is done.

Some of the members of the Hobby Show Committee now have a secret desire to take one of the courts of the South Bldg. and put on a combined flower show, garden show, hobby show and pet show on some September Saturday Afternoon and Evening. Whether the members of the Hobby Show Committee for the show just completed will have the courage to take on an idea of this magnitude, by this coming September, remains to be seen.

THE AGRICULTURE AMATEUR MOVIE MAKERS met at the home of Charles H. Cunningham on Monday Evening June 28. Discussion on new developments in movie making equipment was lead by Mr. Paul Adams of the Bell & Howell Co. Several Kodachrome films on Hiking Trips around Washington and in the New England area, made under the sponsorship of the American Youth Hostels, were shown, with commentary by Barbara Jasper, Asst. Director of the Potomac Area Youth Hostels. The group is planning a project of making some additional Washington area films of hosteling activities during the coming summer months. Plans for a contest among the club members for the best film on "Seeing Washington, D.C." were also discussed.

FARM CREDIT CLUB ANNUAL MEETING was held June 9. The following members were elected for the coming year:

President - Henry W. Bradford
Vice-President - Ralph U. Battles
Treasurer - Samuel P. Hopkins
Editor - W. H. Albright
Recording Secretary - Mary K. Croop
These officers will serve as members of the board of directors with the following:
Katherine Delany, Executive Secretary;
Zelina Ahern, Carl Bark, Helen Johnston,
Pat Ross and J. M. Selby.

SPECIAL EVENT - July 9 Wednesday and July 30 Friday - Watergate Concert Canoe Trip - Spend a cool evening listening to music under the stars. Meet at Dempsey's boathouse (10 or 12 car to last stop before crossing Key Bridge) 6:00 p.m. Bring picnic supper; sweater. Reservations required, call EX 3500 up to 4 p.m. AYH pass not necessary.
July 9 - All Gershwin program.
July 30 - Gladys Swarthout, guest artist.

Savings Bonds Prevent Inflation

DON'T FORGET TO SET ASIDE A DOLLAR FROM YOUR NEXT PAY CHECK FOR THE SALVATION ARMY BUILDING FUND

MOONLIGHT CRUISE, JULY 22, SPONSORED BY AERA
At a meeting of the AERA Council held on Tuesday, June 29, plans for a moonlight cruise on Thursday Evening, July 22 were developed further towards completion. It was voted at the council meeting to include prizes for several dance contests as one of the features of the evening and also to engage several troubadours with accordians, guitars and other suitable instruments to encourage informal group singing in various parts of the boat. The SS. Potomac of the Potomac River Line, which has been engaged by the Council for this event, has a capacity of 2500 people and it is believed that a near capacity crowd will be on hand for this event.

Tickets will be available from the officers and Moonlight Cruise Committee Chairmen of the various Employee Recreation Associations and Employee Clubs and also available at the Employee Activities Office of the Welfare Association, Room 1011 South Building.

NOON MOVIES IN AUDITORIUM

A series of movies of recreational interest, sponsored by the Employees Activities Office, are being given each Friday in July, 12 Noon to 12:30 P.M., in the Jefferson Auditorium. The program of July 2 will be on hiking and biking trips made by members of the American Youth Hostels; July 9 - "Weekend in Bermuda"; July 16 - "Wings over Ireland"; July 23 - Kodachrome Stills; July 30 - "Wings over the Caribbean".

DISCOUNTS!!!

As many of you know by now, the AERA Discount Buying List #2 became available on June 21. If your Recreation Association officers do not have an ample supply of these discount lists, stop in at Room 1011 South Building and we will be glad to give you one. The list contains the details of 12 more agencies that will permit you to make savings on purchases that are bound to save you many times the cost of your AERA or other recreation association membership card.

VACATION ON \$2.00 A DAY

Folk who are interested in an economical, healthful and interesting vacation would do well to talk with some of the Agriculture employees who are members of the Potomac Area Youth Hostels organization which sponsors bicycling and hiking trips for both week ends and more extended vacations from Washington to all points in the United States, Europe and South America at the lowest possible rates. Youth Hostels budget themselves for less than \$2.00 a day on their vacation trips. Some of the Agriculture Hostlers are:

Charles E. Young - REA; Reinhold Briese - BAI;
Velma Cronk - PMA; Maxine Lewis - OFAR;
Laura Warfield - PMA; Charles L. Wake - REA;
Mary M. Witt - REA.

From the July Youth Hostel News we note that Mary Witt of REA is the leader of a boating, cycling and swimming trip to the Old Warehouse Landing, Port Tobacco, Md. on July 17-18. This trip is an easy one that is especially recommended for beginners.

On July 31st and August 1st, a cycling trip to Greenwood Youth Hostel, Brookeville, Md. will be under the leadership of Charlie Wake, also of REA.

If you haven't forgot how to ride a bicycle you might be interested that the bicycle rental rates in the East Potomac Park Bicycle Center, now managed by the American Youth Hostels, are \$7.00 for one week 35¢ for one hour.

For further information on Youth Hosteling Programs and activities in the Washington area, drop into the Employee Activities Office, Room 1011 South Building.

SCS EMPLOYEES RECREATION ASSOCIATION PICNIC - The seasonal softball feud between SCS' B&F Division and Admin. Service Division was furthered on into the summer by the torrential rainstorm of last Thursday. The approximately 25 brave souls who defied the elements have sworn off "hotdogs" until next time.

The SCS Employees Recreation Association held its first election this month. The following officers were elected: President, C. George Younkin; Vice-President, E. J. Peterson; Treasurer, Ed Garvey; Secretary, Miss Georgie Keller. Constitution and by-laws were formally adopted.

***** RIDES WANTED

Mr. Walter Cooper, X3429, Conn. Ave. & California St., N.W.
Mary G. Swanick, X5084, 13th & Mich. Ave., N.E.
Gertrude Farmer, X4947, 4115 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.
Mrs. Marie Silcox, X5260, 108 S. St. Asaph St., Alexandria, Va.
Mrs. Jane Soule, X6318, 310 Tulip Ave., Takoma Park, Md.
Mr. T. J. Reed, X5168, 1610 N. Danville St., Arlington, Va.
Mrs. Greenbaum, X5415, 7th & Peabody St., N.W.
Rosalie Finger, X4605, 5100 Defense Highway, Decatur Hgts., Md.
Mrs. Fox, PMA, Ext. 4664, Wants ride to Wisconsin
Levi Stagner, X2218 - from Springfield, Va.
RIDE OR ROTATOR WANTED
Lance Hooks, X6373, 408 South George Mason Drive, Barcroft, Va.

ROTATOR WANTED

Paul Wallrabenstein, X5275, McLean, Va.

***** DEPARTMENTAL TENNIS LEAGUE SCHEDULE - 1948

July 1 - Navy vs Agriculture - 6 p.m.
July 8 - Agriculture vs Justice - 6 p.m.
July 15 - Government Printing Office vs Agriculture - 6 p.m.
Agriculture Team Manager is Elwood Hoeffcker, Beltsville 837. Anyone interested in Tennis get in touch with Mr. Hoeffcker.

***** RED CROSS

A summary of the activities of the Agriculture Volunteer Red Cross Group for the first 5 mos. of this year is as follows:

January - 95 workers - 437 hours - 23 garments completed.
9 parties given; Young Hostess parties given in hospitals; 107 attended. Norma Lewis, Sr. Hostess.
February - 95 workers - 304 Hours - 20 garments completed.
6 parties given in Hospitals - 70 in attendance.
March - 88 Workers - 774 Hours - 24 garments completed.
4 parties given by Young Hostess Groups in Hospitals - 49 in attendance. During this 3 mos. period, cookies were furnished for 8 of the parties.
April - 93 Workers - 544 Hours - 27 garments completed.
4 parties in Hospitals - 48 girls attending. 68 pocket-sized books and 16 decks of cards turned in for patients.
May - 89 Workers - 260 Hours - 13 knitted articles completed.
3 parties in Hospitals - 31 in attendance.
Several parties are being planned which will require the services of members of the Red Cross Girls Hostess Group during the month of July:
July 13th - Ft. Belvoir, party and dance, 20 girls wanted.
July 27th - Quantico, party with square dancing, 20 girls wanted.
Also 2 ward parties at Bethesda Naval Hospital - date to be announced - 12 girls wanted.
For further information call Mrs. Navy on Ext. 6229.

***** WEAVING

The first weaving class, which is now finishing its series of 8 lessons under the direction of Mrs. Helen C. Wood, PMA, has met with an enthusiastic response from the 10 people who were the first to respond to the announcement about it. Another class is now being formed to meet at 6:30 on Thursday nights, beginning July 15. The cost is 8 lessons for \$10.00. Call Ext. 5611.

In case you missed the article about the Welfare Association in the June 21 issue of USDA, we are reprinting the major portion of it for your benefit below:

"THE USDA WELFARE ASSOCIATION - of which you are a member, whether you know it or not, provided you work in Washington - started in a very small way during the effort to sell Thrift Stamps in World War I. Former Assistant Secretary Carl Vrooman was its first head, and Chief Clerk Reese succeeded him as president in 1919. But, in 1923, a group of employees who were experienced volunteer workers incorporated the Welfare Association mainly to provide emergency aid to financially embarrassed fellow employees. Each agency appointed a welfare committee and its membership comprised the Administrative Council.

'Today the Welfare Association serves 7,000 meals daily, and innumerable snacks, from four cafeterias (the first opened in 1934) in South Building, two in Beltsville, two lunchrooms, two food carts, the executive dining room, and the conference dining rooms. It employs a year-round staff of about 150 and does an annual business of almost \$1,000,000. You are a shareholder in this million-dollar corporation. Much volunteer time and effort still goes into the Association's work and development. Annual net profits are divided equally between the United States and the Associates. During some recent war years as much as \$12,000 a year was paid in to the Treasury as rent for space occupied in Government Buildings, but last year the high wages and high food costs caused a loss of over \$8,000 or about \$1 per customer per year.

'The Welfare Association seeks to serve food at low prices; it makes personal emergency loans reaching an annual total of \$15,000; it at one time paid the salary of the nurse for what has now become our official health program and emergency nursing service; it cooperates and assists in the establishment and promotion of recreational, educational, cultural programs for employees."

***** NEW CRAFT CLASSES

Leathercraft - Under direction of Mildred Roxby, two new groups are starting Tuesday Evening July 6th - 6 lessons for \$6.00. Tuesdays 6:30 to 8:30. Beginners group and advanced groups call Ext. 5611 or 6229 or stop in at Room 1011S to register. Class limited to 10 people in each group.

PICNIC SUPPLIES Quite a few office groups and recreation associations have taken advantage of our employee activities picnic services. If you need some sports equipment or picnic utensils for your next summer program you had better call us right now and have the equipment reserved for the date you prefer. Food services can also be arranged through the Welfare Association if you want it. Call Ext. 5611.

AGRICULTURE CAMERA CLUB recently elected officers for 1948-49 year are:

President: F. A. Coffman (PISAE)
Vice-President: A. G. Johnson (PISAE)
Treasurer: Ernest Gooden (EAPG)
Secretary: Helen Koehne (Ext.)
The following members of the Agriculture Camera Club participated in the Hobby Show on June 18 with Kodachrome slides. Kodachrome movies of the Apple Blossom Festival were also shown by Charles W. Pidgeon.
Mexican scenes & miscellaneous Texas ones - Miss Leona Sportsman (PMA)
Orchids, miscellaneous flowers, Washington scenes - Miss Alna Northcutt
Washington scenes - Lela Werner (PMA)
Garden shots - Raymond R. Smith (PMA)
China - J. C. Williams
Agriculture scenes - E. L. Gooden, (ARA)
F. A. Coffman (ARA)
Hawaii - H. H. Fales (ARA)
Bryce Canyon - G. Ackerman (Ext.)

THE AGRICULTURE CHORISTERS are meeting as usual at 5:45 P.M. on Thursdays in the sometimes air-conditioned Auditorium. Musical compositions, newly acquired by the Choristers, include "All The Things You Are", "In The Still Of The Night", "Sometimes I feel Like A Motherless Child", "I Got Shoes" and "The Gondoliers" from Gilbert and Sullivan.